GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2698
ANSWERED ON:09.08.2000
TRADE BASE AGRO PRODUCT
RAMJI LAL SUMAN;SUSHIL KUMAR INDORA

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have identified potential areas for successfully conducting the trade based on agro products in food processing industry in rural areas of the country;

(b) if so, the names of trades for which possibilities have been explored in the country, location-wise; and

(c) the number of persons likely to get employment under these trades and the total capital required in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TH. CHAOBA SINGH)

(a): Although no specific study relating to these aspects has been carried out, the production data available from the statistical records and from the general studies broadly it is possible to identify at macro-level the potential for development of area specific industries utilizing the available agro-horticultural raw material.

(b): The potential for processed food sector in the country is immense in view of the abundance of the agro-horticultural produces. Based on the raw material availability in the particular region, the scope for setting up of food processing units in each region is as under :-

Eastern Region − litchi, mangoes, tomato, chikkoos, banana etc. NorthEastern Region − pineapple, passion fruit, orange, banana, ginger, etc. Western Region − grapes, mangoes, oranges, potato, onion, garlic etc. Northern Region − Apple, potato, tomato, hops etc. Southern Region − Mangoes, banana, gherkins, tapioca, tomato etc.

(c): As per the Working Group Report on the Formulationof 9th Five Year Plan for Food processing Industries, with an investment of Rs. 28,250 crores, it is estimated that around 2 million persons can get employment. The employment generation potential of the food processing sector is much more than other sectors.